(c) if so, since when and the reasons for not filling these posts so far;

(d) whether the above Kendra is on the verge of closure as a result of the vacancies; and

(e) if so, the action being taken to prevent it from being closed?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Local programmes are telecast twice a week on Monday and Thursday between 5.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Kissan programme (narrow casting) is telecast 5 days at week from Monday to Friday between 4.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

(b) At present one post of Station Director and two posts of Transmission Executives are lying vacant. There is no sanctioned post of Floor Manager, Floor Assistant and Make-up Artist at the Kendra.

(c) The post of Station Director is vacant since 10.8.2005 and could not be filled up due to overall shortage in the grade. The post of Transmission Executive will be filled up after clearance from the Screening Committee to fill up existing vacant posts.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Annual license for Radio and TV

2039. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have planned to revive the system of annual licences for Radio and TV, or a one-time tax to make Prasar Bharati Corporation financially viable;

(b) whether it is not a move to burden the common people making the scheme unpopular; and

(c) how much financial assistance the Prasar Bharati is getting annually from the Centre and whether it is at par with AIR and Doordarshan?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) No specific proposals are under consideration. However, various ideas have been mooted for strengthening Prasar Bharati's autonomous financial base.

(c) Financial assistance received by Prasár Bharati from the Central Government by way of grants and loans for the last two years is as below:—

Year	AIR	DD	PB (Total) (Rs. in crores)
2003-2004	568.63	561.81	1130.44
2004-2005	547.48	580.02	1127.50

All India Radio and Doordarshan are part of Prasar Bharati and whatever financial assistance is received by it is further distributed to them (AIR & DD) as per their requirements.

Foreign film personalities working in India

2040. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of foreign film personalities are working in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Indian film personalities are prohibited from entering those very countries whose citizens are working profitably here; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken to check such imbalance and discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (d) According to information received from Ministry of Home Affairs, foreign film personalities who are interested to work in the Indian film industry are being issued either business visa or employment visa as the case may be.

There is no separate visa for film personalities.

The Government does not have any data about foreign film personalities who are working in India nor regarding Indian film personalities who have been refused visa by any other country.

Quality of television serials

2041. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that TV serials are not entertaining and lack quality in respect of poor scripts, direction and other technical parameters and programming contents;